

REMARKS

By this Amendment, claims 1 and 21 are amended. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication that claims 1-3, 5, 6, 8-12, and 14 are allowable.

Drawings

The drawings are objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a) for not showing "an axial stopping face," "a counter stopping face," and "a conical stopping face," in one embodiment. Applicants have amended claim 21 such that the claim does not recite three stopping faces. Claim 21 now recites the axial stopping face and the conical stopping face. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection to the drawings under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a).

The drawings are also objected to as failing to comply with 37 C.F.R. § 1.84(p)(4) because reference character "36" is used to designate both a counter stopping face and a conical stopping face. Applicants have amended Fig. 11 to remove the character "36." Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection to the drawings under 37 C.F.R. § 1.84(p)(4).

35 U.S.C. §112

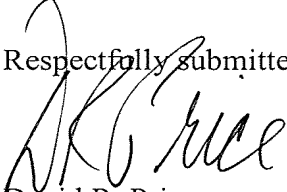
Claims 4, 15, 16, 18, 21, 25, and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Applicants have amended claim 21 to only recite "an axial stopping face" and "a conical stopping face." Applicants respectfully request removal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.

Claims 4, 15, 16, 18, 21, 25, and 26 are also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Applicants respectfully submit that "a conical stopping face" is illustrated in Fig. 11. As explained in paragraph 42 of the present application, "Figure 11 shows another exemplary embodiment, in which the inclined stopping face 36 is embodied as a cone 90." That is, the stopping face is embodied as a conical stopping face. Applicants thereby respectfully request removal of the rejection to the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request entry and consideration of the above amendments and remarks. The undersigned is available for telephone consultation during normal business hours.

Respectfully submitted,

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